

Message

From: Hauchman, Fred [hauchman.fred@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/17/2017 12:39:23 PM
To: Dannel, Mimi [Dannel.Mimi@epa.gov]; Fegley, Robert [Fegley.Robert@epa.gov]; LaVay, Maggie [LaVay.Maggie@epa.gov]; Flowers, Lynn [Flowers.Lynn@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Last Weekly

From: Blackburn, Elizabeth
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2017 10:34 PM
To: ORD-Exec-Council-Direct **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**; ORD-Mgmt-Council <**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**>;
ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**; Linkins, Samantha <Linkins.Samantha@epa.gov>;
Gibbons, Dayna <Gibbons.Dayna@epa.gov>; Maguire, Megan <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>; Maloney, Kelsey
<Maloney.Kelsey@epa.gov>; Fitzpatrick, Kacey <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>; Sauerhage, Maggie
<Sauerhage.Maggie@epa.gov>; Benforado, Jay <Benforado.Jay@epa.gov>; Matthews, Lisa <Matthews.Lisa@epa.gov>;
Zambrana, Jose <Zambrana.Jose@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Last Weekly

Dear all

Please see Tom's last weekly note below to the Administrator.

Liz

Liz Blackburn
Chief of Staff
EPA Office of Research and Development
202-564-2192
Cc: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burke, Thomas" <Burke.Thomas@epa.gov>
Date: January 16, 2017 at 7:43:58 PM EST
To: "Adm13McCarthy, Gina" <Adm13McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov>, "Meiburg, Stan" <Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov>, "Fritz, Matthew" <Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov>, "Vaught, Laura" <Vaught.Laura@epa.gov>, "Distefano, Nichole" <DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov>, "Benenati, Frank" <benenati.frank@epa.gov>, "Garbow, Avi" <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>, "Beauvais, Joel" <Beauvais.Joel@epa.gov>, "Giles-AA, Cynthia" <Giles-AA.Cynthia@epa.gov>, "McCabe, Janet" <McCabe.Janet@epa.gov>, "Stanislaus, Mathy" <Stanislaus.Mathy@epa.gov>, "Jones, Jim" <Jones.Jim@epa.gov>, "Flynn, Mike" <Flynn.Mike@epa.gov>, "Garvin, Shawn" <garvin.shawn@epa.gov>, "Kaplan, Robert" <kaplan.robert@epa.gov>
Cc: "Kavlock, Robert" <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>, "Robbins, Chris" <Robbins.Chris@epa.gov>, "Blackburn, Elizabeth" <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Radzikowski, Mary Ellen" <Radzikowski.Maryellen@epa.gov>, "Rodan, Bruce" <rodan.bruce@epa.gov>, "Deener, Kathleen" <Deener.Kathleen@epa.gov>, "Hubbard, Carolyn" <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: Last Weekly

Administrator,

Well, I guess this is my last report. What an amazing privilege it has been to represent the scientists and staff of ORD/OSA. Thanks for all you have done for science at the Agency, and for advancing our public health mission. And thanks to the whole team I copied each week on these reports, truly the Dream Team of Environmental Protection. I will be back to work at Johns Hopkins next week. I know our paths will continue to cross, and I look forward to continuing to support the great mission and people of EPA.

Flint Drinking Water Expert Panel, Lansing, MI

On January 18th, ORD will participate in a panel to review drinking water quality data from the City of Flint and review recommendations to be shared with Governor Snyder's Flint Water Interagency Coordinating Committee on January 20. Other panel members will include representatives from academia, the medical community, and regulatory agencies.

Final IRIS Assessment of Benzo[a]pyrene

On January 19, ORD anticipates releasing the final Integrated Risk Information System assessment of Benzo[a]pyrene. Benzo[a]pyrene is a five-ring polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon that is released into the atmosphere as a component of smoke from industrial processes, vehicle exhaust, cigarettes, and through the burning of various materials (such as wood, coal, petroleum products, and biomass). The final assessment addresses cancer and non-cancer effects of benzo[a]pyrene from inhalation and oral exposure. This assessment updates the IRIS assessment of benzo[a]pyrene that was developed in 1987.

PBS NOVA Films ORD Drinking Water Research for Documentary

PBS NOVA returned to ORD's lab in Cincinnati on January 11 to film for a documentary on the Flint drinking water crisis. They conducted on-camera interviews with Mike Schock and Cindy Sonich-Mullin. Cindy emphasized the foundational role that science plays in the Agency's regulations and decisions, and talked about how ORD's long and rich history in drinking water research has equipped us with unique expertise to provide technical support in communities like Flint. Mike demonstrated the expertise as he explained the complex chemistry of drinking water contamination from lead service lines, and the science behind the regulations and systems put in place to ensure our drinking water is safe. NOVA also filmed several other ORD scientists as they discussed drinking water and corrosion research performed in the Drinking Water Pilot Plant, and other locations in the lab. They captured footage of the home premise plumbing system, pipe scale extraction and analysis, and EPAnet simulations of a premise plumbing system and water condition changes within Flint's distribution system.

Board of Scientific Counselors Executive Committee Meeting

The Board of Scientific Counselors Executive Committee held a public meeting at EPA RTP last week. They focused on the draft reports from the subcommittees: Air, Climate and Energy, Chemical Safety for Sustainability, Safe and Sustainable Water Resources, and Sustainable and Healthy Communities. They also discussed integrating social science into ORD research and program evaluation and metrics and the ORD Cross-Cutting Research Roadmap Annual Reports: Environmental Justice, Climate Change, Children's Environmental Health, and Nitrogen and Co-pollutant. The committee was impressed with the scope and direction of ORD's research programs and roadmaps, with discussions focusing on how we can continue to inform Agency needs and move the science forward. We expect their final report in the spring.

Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects

On January 11, Stan Meiburg signed the final rule to revise the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects, also referred to as the Common Rule, issued by the Department of Health and Human Services. The rule was last adjusted in 1991. The revised rule impacts informed consent, broad consent by research participants for unspecified future research, exemption categories, coordination of IRBs for cooperative research by multiple U.S.-based institutions, and continuing review for some studies after completing the study intervention phase.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Companies Recognized with Tibbets Awards

The Tibbets Awards are annual awards given to SBIR companies deemed to be “models of excellence in high technology.” Winners are chosen based on “the economic impact of their technological innovation, and the extent to which that innovation served federal R&D needs, encouraged diverse participation, and increased the commercialization of federal research.” Three EPA SBIR companies, [GVD Corporation](#), [Lucid](#), and [PittMoss](#) were all named 2016 Tibbets Award winners and highlighted as “beacons of promise and models of excellence in high technology.”

Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers

ORD’s Havala Pye received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the US Government for science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their careers. Winners are selected for “their pursuit of innovative research at the frontiers of science and technology and their commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education, or community outreach.” This year’s recipients include 102 scientists and engineers. Dr. Pye is one of two EPA awardees. Her research in atmospheric chemistry focuses on one of the most complex aspects of air pollution, the formation of organic aerosols in the atmosphere. Dr. Pye’s scientific findings have been incorporated into EPA’s premier photochemical air quality model, the [Community Multiscale Air Quality model](#). She also works to promote an understanding of air pollution in the community through hundreds of volunteer hours, discussing science and engineering with children and educators.

Healthy Aging in Action: Advancing the National Prevention Strategy

EPA’s Healthy Heart Program is highlighted in the U.S. Surgeon General’s National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council’s newly published report, *Healthy Aging in Action: Advancing the National Prevention Strategy*. The section on “Empowered People: Supporting People in Making Healthier Choices” discusses “Air Quality and Heart Health: Making the Connection—The Healthy Heart program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency aims to raise awareness among health care providers and the American public about the link between air pollution and cardiovascular health.”

ORD Scientists Contribute to New EPA White Paper on Plastic Pollutants

ORD co-authored a recently released white paper issued by OW on the chemical toxicity associated with plastics pollution and potential impacts on aquatic life and aquatic-dependent wildlife. The paper provides a state of the science on the toxic effects of plastics and their associated chemicals on aquatic-dependent wildlife and aquatic life. Plastics may be both a source of chemicals that are inherent to plastic production, as well as a carrier for other hydrophobic organic compounds (PCBs and PAHs) in the aquatic environment. Many research gaps currently exist, including the extent and magnitude of plastics to act as a carrier of chemicals.

Publications

Grantee Publication: STAR Grantee [Misti Sharp](#) recently published a paper in The Journal of American Water Resources Association titled [*Institutional Constraints on Cost-Effective Water Management: Selenium Contamination in Colorado’s Lower Arkansas River Valley*](#). Sharp and colleagues discuss a groundwater reactive transport model that identifies four potential management practices for Selenium contamination in southeastern Colorado. The model integrates physical, environmental, social, and political environments influencing pollution management in the region. Results suggest estimating economic and environmental tradeoffs of Selenium management practices do not adequately represent choices of farmers. This work has implications for managing water quality under western water institutions as it suggests institutional constraints of water management should be considered when developing best management practices for Selenium contamination.

Grantee Publication: STAR-funded [Harvard Clean Air Research Center](#) recently published a paper entitled, “[Prenatal and childhood traffic-related air pollution exposure and childhood executive function and behavior](#),” in *Neurotoxicity and*

Teratology. The research found that children with higher mid-childhood exposure to Black Carbon and greater near-residence traffic density had greater problems with regulating behavior as assessed by classroom teachers.